

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 24, 26, and 28-31 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 24, 26, and 28-31 have been rejected. Claims 1 and 24 have been amended. Claims 3 and 26 have been cancelled, and their features have been incorporated into their independent claims. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 24, 26, and 28-31 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Koppolu (U.S. Patent No. 5,706,458). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 5-8, 24, and 28-31 are allowable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Independent claims 1 and 24 include features that are neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art, namely, as represented by claim 1 as amended:

A unified user interface for an application comprising:

one or more component tables, wherein each component table corresponds to a component of the application, each component table includes at least one command for the corresponding component, and **each component table includes a description for adding the command to the user interface**; and

a master table merged from the one or more component tables, said master table includes available command and available command vectors for the application, each command and command vector having a unique object identifier, and said master table comprising at least one information element from among the following information elements: available commands including commands that are not menu commands; available command vectors including command vectors that do not correspond to menu commands; commands that are on toolbars; and commands that map to keystrokes.

Claims 1 and 24 have been amended to include the features of cancelled claims 3 and 26 respectively. The claims have also been added to include the features of each component table including a description for adding the command to the user interface. Support for these amendments can be found on page 13, lines 8 through 15 of the specification as originally filed.

Koppolu purports to teach systems and methods for generating a merged menu list using a conflict resolution protocol (Koppolu, Abstract). The conflict resolution protocol includes container menus of a container application and server menus of a server application (Id.). The

container application has a container object and a container window environment, and the server application has a containee object which is contained within the container object (Id.).

Koppolu fails to disclose or suggest **a component table including a description for adding a command to the user interface**, as required by independent claim 1. It is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection and allow claim 1.

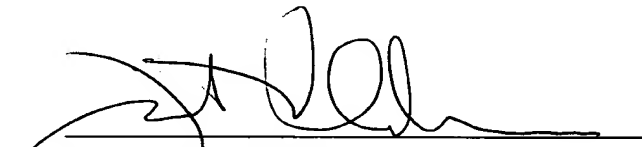
Independent claim 24 as amended includes similar features as claim 1, and is therefore allowable for at least the reasons given for claim 1 above. It is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection and allow claim 24.

Claims 5-8, and 28-31 are all variously dependent on independent claims 1 and 24, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons given for claims 1 and 24 above. It is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejections and allow claims 5-8, and 28-31.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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